

**In the Claims**

Please cancel non-elected claim 6. No further amendments are made in the Claims. The following is a list of the claims as currently pending in the present application after this amendment:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for the production of a work piece by the successive compacting, by means of electromagnetic radiation or particle radiation, of powdered starting material that has been applied horizontally in layers, so that each layer consisting of at least one trace comprises two substantially vertical lateral faces and one substantially horizontal upper face which, in turn, forms the basis for a possible subsequent layer, wherein at least one of the two vertical side walls is subject to mechanical finishing subsequent to the compacting of said powdered starting material that has been applied horizontally in layers, and wherein the work piece to be formed is surrounded by powdered starting material during its production, wherein the mechanical finishing of a vertical side wall of an  $n$ th layer is performed after the generation of an  $n + x^{\text{th}}$  layer only.
2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one further layer has been produced between the production of the  $n$ th layer and the beginning of the mechanical finishing of this layer.
3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein several layers are finished simultaneously.
4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein several layers are comprised to form layer packages.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the mechanical finishing of the  $n-1^{\text{st}}$  layer package is started after the generation of an  $n^{\text{th}}$  layer package.
6. (Cancelled)